

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Original) A therapeutic gradient compression stocking comprising a foot portion, a leg portion having a lower leg portion and an upper leg portion and a waist support spaced above said leg portion and a hip portion extending between said leg portion and said waist support portion, said hip portion having a cutout portion on each side of said hip portion sized to accommodate the lower waist of the wearer so that the stocking may be worn on either leg; and said waist portion constructed so as to accommodate a fastener surrounding the patient's waist, said stocking being capable of being worn on either leg of the patient.
2. (Original) The therapeutic stocking according to Claim 1 wherein said waist portion includes a strap engaging loop having a waist strap passing there through.
3. (Original) The therapeutic stocking according to Claim 2 wherein said waist strap fastens on either the left side or the right side of said strap.
4. (Original) The therapeutic stocking according to Claim 1 wherein said foot portion includes a toe opening.
5. (Original) The therapeutic stocking according to Claim 1 wherein said foot portion has a closed toe.
6. (Original) The therapeutic stocking according to Claim 1 wherein the pressure in the distal end of said stocking gradually decreases to the proximal end.
7. (Original) The therapeutic stocking according to Claim 1 wherein the hip portion extends from about 30% to 50% of the circumference of the upper opening of the stocking exclusive of said cutouts.